

New Witness Says Rector and Wife Were Estranged

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communicated only by notes delivered by servants. Sometimes they used the extension telephone."

Mrs. Lee said her sister was frank about her relationship with the rector.

"She wrote many intimate details of her friendship," she said. "I destroyed these letters immediately. I had no idea they would assume importance later."

E-Maid's Story Differs

Mrs. Louise Geist Riehl, former servant in the Hall home, made a denial of Mrs. Lee's story.

"The Halls lived happily together right up to the time of the murder. Their life was a real idyl," she said. "They called each other 'dear' and 'honey.'"

She said, however, that Barbara Trough, another servant, had intimated that the rector and his wife were not so friendly.

"Barbara attended all the social affairs of the church and picked up a lot of gossip I missed," she added.

Charlotte Mills also entered the investigation with the new development. The choir singer's daughter said:—

"I hope they call me. Mother told me a lot about her friendship for Dr. Hall. Mother told me a lot of things which indicated Mrs. Hall knew what was going on between her husband and my mother."

Mills Changes Account

Other spectacular developments were the changes in his story. James Mills made yesterday under a five-hour grilling by police acting under orders from Senator Alexander Simpson, in charge of the inquiry.

Since September 14, 1922, when his wife was slain with the Rev. Edward W. Hall under the old arbutus tree on the Phillips farm, Mills persistently denied he knew of any affair between the murdered couple. Under examination by Major Mark O. Kimberling and Capt. John J. Lamb of the state troopers, however, Mills yesterday admitted readily that he had spoken repeatedly to his wife about her devotion to the pastor.

Threatened to Run Away

The former church sexton, now a New Brunswick school janitor, asserted that he had "often told Eleanor (Mrs. Mills) that he would get a divorce," but that he had never taken any definite steps in that direction. When pressed for his reasons, Mills said quietly that he was a "busy man" and that he had "no time nor money for any court actions."

On the other hand, he said his wife had told him she would get divorced if he did not, and run off with the minister.



Willie Stevens

Rev. Hall and told of the affection he bore him.

Mills Meek Witness

Throughout his examination, Mills maintained his characteristic attitude of meekness and almost somnolent composure. He answered the questions of the officials quietly and coherently and was the coolest of the fourteen witnesses who were examined.

Prosecution Pleased

Mr. Simpson was quite satisfied with the results of his questioning.

"We have produced two important 'breaks' so far," he declared, "and everything is most satisfactory so far."

In commenting on newspaper criticism which has been leveled at him, the special prosecutor said: "They have had four years to solve the murders."

Caveman, Singed, Lost Hairy Coat, Says Savant

OXFORD, ENG., Aug. 10 (By U. P.).—The question, "When and how did man lose his hairy covering?" was heatedly debated before the British Association for the Advancement of Science today.

R. T. Granther, noted zoologist, argued that hair was a positive danger to prehistoric man. "He was being singed perpetually and sometimes burned to death because of it; whereupon the process of natural selection resulted in the survival of the comparatively hairless."

Bank Was Closed, So Youthful Trio Refused to Rob it

SPRING VALLEY WIS.—Finding the bank closed and losing a revolver proved so discouraging to a young bandit trio which boldly invaded Woodville Friday afternoon that the three, after recovering the weapon, sped so quickly from the village that none of the astonished citizens on Main street thought to collar them.

The "hold-up," which was executed just like they do it in comic movie films, took place in this way: The three youths drove into town at high speed in a small coupe, one of them pointing a revolver right at Main street. The weapon slipped from the hand of the daring young outlaw and rolled to the pavement.

The trio knew where the bank was. But the institution wasn't open.

The three trembling desperadoes turned about, doubled back on their trail far enough to pick up their lost revolver, and sped from the village.

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